also a principal mean that they are set on work and thereby withdrawn from idleness, drunkenness, unlawful games and other lewd practices , and *by* the same means the greater part of the subjects are preserved from extreme poverty in a competent state of maintenance, and the wealth of the realm kept and dispersed in many hands where it is more ready to answer all necessary charges for the service of the realm In the Parliament of 1593, partly by reason of the great plenty of grain at that time, the law ordaining a certain proportion of land to be kept in tillage was suffered to lapse , but since that time there have grown many more depopulations by turning tillage into pasture than ever before

An Act for the relief of the poor, whereby the churchwardens of every parish and four substantial householders shall be made overseers of the poor, with power to set to work the children of all parents unable to maintain them, to gather a convenient stock of flax, hemp, wool, thread, iron and other necessary ware to set the poor that have no means to maintain themselves on work , to gather sums of money towards the necessary relief of the lame, impotent, old and blind , and also for putting out of children to be apprentices

An Act for repressing of rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars, repealing all other Acts Hereby shall be deemed as rogues and beggars all persons, calling themselves scholars, begging for money, seafaring men, pretending losses of their ships or goods , all idle persons, begging or using any subtle craft or unlawful games or plays, or feigning themselves to have knowledge in physiognomy, palmistry, or like crafty sciences, or pretending that they can tell

destinies or fortunes,
or such other like fantastical imaginations ,
proctors, procurers,
patent gatherers , collectors for gaols, prisons, or
hospitals , all
fencers, bearwards, common players of interludes
and minstrels
wandering abroad (other than players belonging
to any Baron
of the realm or other honourable person of
greater note, to be
authorised under the hand and seal of arms of
such Baron),
jugglers, tinkers, pedlars and petty chapmen ,
labourers, able
in body, loitering and refusing to work for such
reasonable
wages as are offered And when such an one
shall be taken, he
shall be stripped naked from his middle upwards
and shall be